

2nd Grade Classroom Handbook

Miss Richardson 2014-2015

Durant Road Elementary School

Welcome!

Welcome to 2nd Grade with Miss Richardson! I am very excited about the school year and the opportunity to work with your child! I know that we will have a super year!

This handbook is information in addition to the Durant Parent Handbook and the WCPSS Parent Handbook. Please make sure to read both of those handbooks as they contain important information that is vital to your child's school year!

Class Website

Our class has a website that contains a variety of information. It will also have pictures of students, projects and things we are doing in school. Be sure to check it out!

<http://richardsonsecondgrade.weebly.com/>



Monday Folders

Durant Folders will be sent home every Monday. Monday Folders will include finished work from the previous week, your child's stoplight sheet, notes about field trips or special events and other important documents from the school or PTA. Stoplight Sheets will also be sent home in the Monday Folder. Please make sure to review your child's Monday Folder and make any necessary comments before returning it to school Tuesday with your child.

Weekly Newsletter

A weekly newsletter (Notes from the Herd) will be sent home every Monday in the Durant folder. The newsletter will contain information about what we are learning at school, important events, and more. Please be sure to read the Newsletter as this is my primary way of communicating with you about important happenings in our classroom. In an effort to save paper, the newsletter will be sent as an attachment in a weekly email. If you do not have internet access and need a paper copy please let me know.

Stoplight Sheets

We use Stoplight sheets for behavior, work completion and homework completion. These sheets are sent home every Monday in the Monday Folder. I feel that the stoplight sheet is the best way to ensure parent-teacher communication regarding your child's behavior and work habits. There is a space for you to sign the sheet each Monday and then return it to school the next day. You may also write me any notes or comments in the signature area. I check these sheets every Tuesday and will reply back to you as soon as possible when necessary.

Our Class Rules

Rules:

1. Listen when your teacher is talking.
2. Follow directions quickly.
3. Raise your hand for permission to speak.
4. Be safe, be kind, be honest.
5. Respect others, respect yourself, and respect your school.

We have spent a good deal of time talking about Respect. I feel that Respect is a very important part of school (and life). Students must show respect at all times. We made charts to show what respect looks like and sounds like so the students are very familiar with this word. We also have gestures that go with each rule to help us remember them. Ask your child to show you the gestures!

Behavior

I believe that positive behavior is very important to our classroom environment and each individual child's academic success. We have created our class rules together and each child signed their name showing that they agree with the rules and will follow them. I use a clip chart system in which each student has a clothespin that they can move up or down for positive or negative behavior. I focus very heavily on positive behavior! I believe that it is the best way to help motivate students to learn.

Level	Consequences
Outstanding (Pink)	Sticker on Clip
Great Job (Purple)	Cheer from classmates at the end of the day
Good Job (Blue)	N/A
Ready to Learn (Green)	N/A
Warning (Yellow)	Verbal Warning
Think About It (Orange)	Teacher Choice of Consequence
Parent Contact (Red)	Phone Call Home, Possibly Office Visit

Consequences & Refocus Forms

I feel that students need to be accountable for their own actions. I also feel that consequences should be appropriate to the behavior displayed by a student. If their clip moves to level orange they will receive an appropriate consequence such as loss of a privilege, eagle buck fine, or filling out a Refocus Form. The refocus form helps them identify the negative behavior that they were displaying, what actions/choices they should be showing instead and ways to make a better choice next time. After students fill out the form they need to take it home and get it signed by a parent. If your child brings a refocus form home please have a discussion with them about their behavior.

If your child is constantly bringing home refocus forms I will be in contact with you to have a conference to discuss the ways we can help them be successful in school. I, along with our school administration and counselors, reserve the right to create a separate behavior plan if necessary.

Whole Class Rewards

As a class the students will earn various rewards throughout the year. This includes earning feathers in the hallway, at lunch, and at specials. Our school utilizes the positive behavior system very well. Students receive eagle bucks that they can spend at the school store each week.

Snacks

We have Snack time every afternoon. Please send a healthy snack with your child. We do not have a lot of time for snack so individually wrapped items or items in a baggie are best.

Lunch

We eat lunch in the cafeteria every day. Students will need to use their NCWISE numbers to buy lunch. We will not be using lunch cards this year. Please help your child memorize their number at home. Also, feel free to join your child for lunch in the cafeteria.

Water Bottles

Students are allowed to have water bottles at their seats. I feel that it is important for them to be able to stay hydrated. Water bottles can be filled at the water fountain before school, during our morning bathroom break, at lunch and at snack time. If the water bottle contains ice please put a clean sock around the bottle so that the condensation does not get all over your students' work. Water bottles must be taken home every night to be cleaned - germs can form quickly in them if they are not washed!

Classroom Volunteers

Thank you to those of you who have already filled our Volunteer Interest forms that were given out at Open House! I look forward to working with you this year!

I utilize Volunteer Spot, a website that allows parents to sign up to come in and volunteer or send in materials for activities.

I also have Home Volunteer Folders if you would like to volunteer but cannot make it into school. I will send materials to be cut out, glued, labeled, etc home in a large envelope with your child and a date to return it by. You do the work at home and then send it back to school with your child. Please let me know if you are interested in helping by receiving a home volunteer folder.

Visiting Our Classroom

We love having parents involved in our classroom! If you are coming in to volunteer please sign in at the front office first before coming down to our classroom. Also, if you are dropping an item off for your child please leave it in the front office. If you need to discuss something with me please make an appointment as my days are full of instructing your child! I will not be able to stop my instruction to speak with you. If you have a transportation change or message that needs to go to your child please speak with the front office and they will pass the message onto me.

Field Trips

We will most likely be taking two field trips this year. We will be going to Oakview Historical Park (2nd nine weeks) and also to the Durham Museum of Life and Science (4th nine weeks). Parent volunteers will be needed to help chaperone. More information will be coming in the weekly newsletters.

Birthdays

I understand that birthdays are a great time to celebrate your child ☺. We always celebrate birthdays with a few special things including a special share time on the carpet and singing to your child. If you would like to bring in a snack on/near your child's birthday please give me ONE WEEK's notice so that we can work it into our schedule. **All snacks per Wake County Policy must be store bought.**

Durant Second Grade Homework 2014-2015

All second grade students will do homework on the computer on the Scootpad website.

www.scootpad.com

Students will complete the following assignments over the course of the week:

- Reading Comprehension
- Grammar
- Spelling (Letterland Words)
- Math

Each week's assignments will be directly aligned to what your child is learning in those subjects at school. Each student should be reading for at least 20 minutes each night. Research shows that frequent reading is the BEST way to increase fluency, accuracy, comprehension and vocabulary. Please encourage your child to read good fit books and discuss their reading with you. Second graders can also still benefit greatly from being read to by an adult.

When your child logs into Scootpad they will see all of their assignments for homework for the week. He/she will have more than one practice of some assignments. Feel free to have your child complete his/her homework over the course of the week as you see fit.

Here is a suggested schedule for weekly homework completion:

Monday – Read to Self, **Scootpad: Reading Comprehension, Math**

Tuesday – Read to Self, **Scootpad: Grammar, Spelling, Math**

Wednesday – Read to Self, **Scootpad: Reading Comprehension, Math**

Thursday – Read to Self, **Scootpad: Grammar, Spelling, Math**

All homework will be completed online. There will be no papers to turn in. Each week your child's teacher will review your child's progress in Scootpad. Your child's homework completion and effort will be marked on their weekly report.

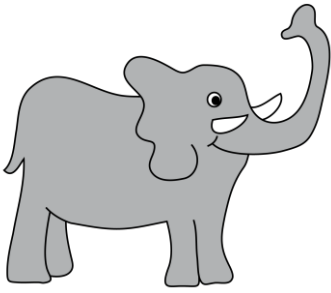
Homework will start the second week of school. I will send home your child's username and password as soon I receive their contribution.

Homework for this week is to log in after you receive the username and password and then link a parent email to your child's account.

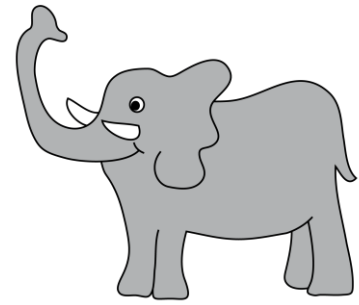
Thank you so much for your support and cooperation!

- The 2nd Grade Team

Please read our classroom handbook that was sent to you in an email. If you need a paper copy please let me know and I will send one home. Please sign and return the bottom portion of this paper.



Second Grade Expectations



As your child's **teacher** you can expect me to:

- Provide your child with a positive learning environment.
- Teach material that is aligned with the Common Core Curriculum using research based instructional methods.
- Present material in a variety of ways to increase student interest and engagement and ensure numerous opportunities for students to succeed.
- Encourage your child to always do their best!
- Communicate with you in a timely manner through weekly newsletters, class website, email, phone, and parent conferences.

As a **student** I expect you to:

- ❖ Be respectful at all times to everyone in our school community.
- ❖ Respect school property and property of those around them.
- ❖ Be prepared to learn each day.
- ❖ Have a positive attitude.
- ❖ Follow our school and classroom rules so that everyone in our class can learn and succeed!
- ❖ Do your best work.
- ❖ Ask questions or ask for help if you don't understand something.

As a **parent/guardian** I ask that you would:

- Encourage your child to do his/her best work by completing assignments on time.
- Be an active participant in your child's learning. (I will only be their teacher for 1 year – you are their teacher for life!)
- Make sure that your child comes to school ready to learn with necessary supplies.
- Work with me to ensure that your child shows positive behaviors at school.

Please cut off the portion below, sign it, and send it back to school.

I have read the parent handbook and discussed it with my child. I agree to follow the policies, rules and procedures.

Child's Name

Parent Signature